

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07 TRSE-00 /086 W

-----034047 082137Z /75

R 081452Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5147

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ADDIS ABABA 4785

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR, ET, SO, UR

SUBJECT: ETHIOPIAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS DENIES RE-
PORT SOVIET WISH TERRITORIAL CESSIONS TO SOMALIA

1. ETHIOPIAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MOFA) HAS ISSUED OFFICIAL DISCLAIMER TO AUGUST 4 WASHINGTON POST ARTICLE, DATED LINED MOGADISCIO, CLAIMING THAT SOVIET UNION HAS PROPOSED ETHIOPIA CEDE PART OF HER TERRITORY TO SOMALIA. AS CARRIED AUGUST 6 ETHIOPIAN HERALD, MOFA SPOKESMAN MAINTAINED, "SOVIET UNION FULLY ADHERES TO PRINCIPLES TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY AND INVIOABILITY OF STATE FRONTIERS, AS DEMONSTRATED BY JOINT COMMUNIQUE SIGNED IN MOSCOW LAST SPRING." MOFA SPOKESMAN WARNED, "IF SOMALIA DISREGARDS THESE PRINCIPLES THE RESULT MAY WELL BE TO DISADVANTAGE OF SOMALIA AS IT IS PRESENTLY CONSTITUTED."

2. TO MAKE EPMG POSITION CLEAR, SPOKESMAN STATED THERE CAN BE NO COMPROMISE IN ISSUES OF ETHIOPIAN TERRI-
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TORIAL INTEGRITY OR ON REVOLUTION ITSELF. BOTH WOULD BE PROTECTED BY ETHIOPIAN PEOPLE, REGARDLESS OF SACRIFICE, AND THE SOONER ALL CONCERNED RECOGNIZED "THIS HARD FACT, THE BETTER IT WILL SERVE LASTING INTERESTS OF ALL PEOPLE IN REGION," WORLD PEACE, AND SECURITY.

3. AUGUST 7 ETHIOPIAN HERALD EDITORIAL AGAIN CHARACTERIZED

POST ARTICLE AS EXAMPLE WESTERN MEDIA EFFORTS TO HAMPER ETHIOPIAN REVOLUTION AND DISMEMBER ETHIOPIAN STATE. OTHER EXAMPLES CITED OF WESTERN DISTORTIONS INCLUDE ERRONEOUS REPORTING FALL OF DIRE DAWA, ASMARA AND JIJIGA AND "TO ADD INSULT TO INJURY, READING IN TOTO RUBBISH HANDOUTS SENT FROM MOGADISCIO."

4. COMMENT: MOFA SPOKESMAN'S COMMENTS ON TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY SEEM DIRECTED NOT ONLY AT WESTERN PRESS, BUT AT ALL PARTIES INVOLVED IN HORN OF AFRICA, PRESUMABLY, INCLUDING USSR. MOREOVER, THERE IS NO MENTION AT ALL IN MOSCOW COMMUNIQUE AFTER MENGISTU VISIT OF EITHER TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OR INVIOABILITY OF FRONTIERS. MOFA STATEMENT MAY THUS BE BACKHANDED MEANS OF REMINDING USSR OF THAT FACT, WHICH HAS TAKEN ON ADDITIONAL SIGNIFICANCE IN INTERIM. EMBASSY HAS NOT SEEN POST ARTICLE AND WOULD WELCOME SOME DETAILS ON WHAT WAS ACTUALLY WRITTEN.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CESSION, SPHERE OF INFLUENCE, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, ALLEGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 08-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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